(c) Steps taken to prevent accidents at unmanned level crossing include, provision of pre-warning arrangements for road users, launching of periodic safety drives to check the alertness of train drivers and their mandatory whistling, periodic publicity drives for educating road users through various means and involving the media, the village panchayats and other local bodies. Joint ambush checks with civil authorities are conducted to nab errant vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989. Whistle Boards along the tracks for trains, and speed breakers and rumble strips for road users are also provided. Depending upon the volume and nature of rail and road traffic at level crossing and visibility conditions, unmanned level crossing are manned in a phased manner, vulnerable level crossings being given priority. System of digital axle detection based Train Actuated Warning Device has also been introduced for trials at some level crossing gates to warn road users about an approaching train.

Golconda Express Derailment

1138. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken so far, in response to the report submitted by the South Central Railway Safety Commissioner, Shri R.P. Agarwal, regarding causes of Golconda Express derailment accident, which occurred recently at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh, in which many passengers died and many passengers were seriously injured;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle, Shri R.P. Agarwal, concluded in his inquiry report that the derailment of 7201 Up Golconda Express under Secunderabad Division of South Central Railway on 02.07.2003 occurred due to the delayed application of the brakes of the train. As a result, the train ran through sand hump though starter signal for line No. 4 was showing danger (red) aspect. Disciplinary action has been initiated against those who were found responsible for this accident.

(c) Does not arise.